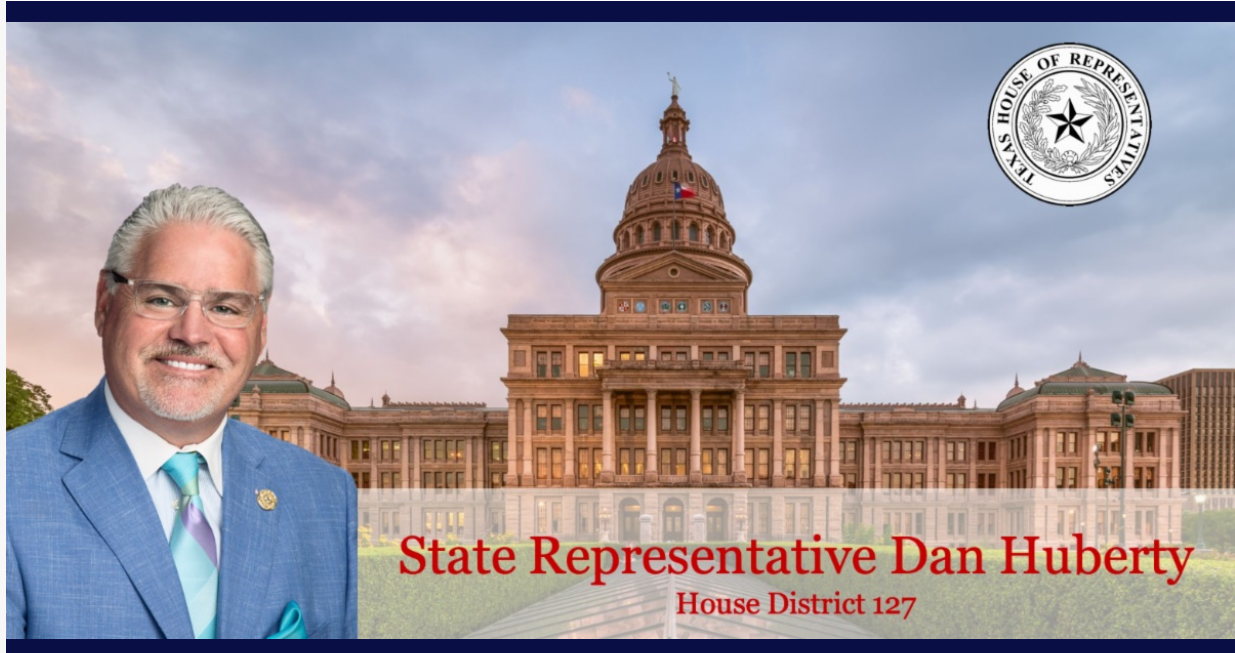


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Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



July 17, 2020

Thank you for subscribing to my e-newsletter. This edition of our weekly newsletter includes updates from from state and local agencies. We hope you find this information useful.

This morning, I joined Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, House Speaker Dennis Bonnen and Senate Education Chairman Larry Taylor in signing a letter to the members of the Legislature regarding the guidance provided to school districts. I have highlighted the points of interest from that letter below, as well as, [a link to that letter](#).

The House Parliamentarians issued a memo this week outlining the options to conduct interim committee business during this unprecedented time. I am working with my committee members to schedule meetings to discuss the important charges issued by the Speaker last fall. If you are interested in more information on future House Public Education events, please refer to the committee website, [available here](#).

Lastly, I joined several House members in sending a letter to Governor Abbott requesting a change to the definition of a restaurant, as outlined in Executive Order GA-28. Read more on this below or [click here to view that letter](#).

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



Reopen Texas Resources

Joint Letter to the Legislature:  
TEA School District Reopening Guidance

"Over the past several months, we have worked collaboratively to develop a plan for public education. The overarching goal is for public schools to be open this fall for on-campus instruction for students whose parents want their children to attend—subject to the exceptions outlined below:

- Schools may start the fall semester with virtual education as they transition to providing on-campus instruction
  - Providing schools the local discretion to utilize virtual learning for all students, without a loss of funding, for up to the first four weeks of the fall semester...that decision is up to the local school district...
- Local school districts retain autonomy to set their calendar and to determine safety protocols for campuses
  - Local school districts, as has been the case historically, will continue to decide how to set their calendars for the fall. Each local school district will decide when the first day of school begins.
- Schools will receive funding based on in-person and virtual attendance at schools
  - A student who is educated virtually will generate the same daily funding as a student that receives on-campus instruction, provided the school takes attendance in the virtual classroom and has submitted its virtual education plans to the Texas Education Agency, among other requirements.
- Schools may transition to virtual learning for a short period of time to disinfect campuses should it become necessary
  - The school or classroom may be closed for up to five school days without a loss of funding so long as virtual learning is provided and attendance is taken during that time.
- Schools are guaranteed minimum funding for Average Daily Attendance (ADA) based on a 3 year trend of attendance for the first 12 weeks of the fall semester
  - Local school districts are guaranteed a minimum level of funding for the first 12 weeks of the fall semester, based on a 3 year trend of attendance, to ensure that any disruptions in attendance caused by COVID-19 do not negatively impact their budgets.
- The state is providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to schools for their use
  - The state is providing PPE, including masks, face shields, gloves, hand sanitizer, and thermometers, to all local school districts in sufficient quantities to start the fall semester...*at no cost* to teachers, staff, and students.
- Families First leave applies to teachers and staff
  - Federal legislation...provides certain paid sick leave options to employees who have COVID-19 and/or are caring for dependents with COVID-19...any teacher or other staff member who qualifies for Families First may use it.
- Local Health Authorities and emergency closure orders
  - Local health authorities have the ability, subject to oversight of DSHS, to order the closure of public schools for public health reasons.

Our goal in crafting these proposals is to ensure students have access to high quality public education; to ensure students, teachers, staff, and the general public are protected in doing so; and to ensure schools have the resources and flexibility needed for those students using virtual education. This plan ensures that significant decisions about school plans will be retained at the local level.

We strongly encourage all parents, teachers, and staff to engage with their local school districts to ensure their needs and concerns are taken into account when the local school districts make decisions regarding the 2020-2021 school year.

As you know, our offices, as well as the Texas Education Agency, remain available to each and every one of you should you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Thank you for your service to our State, and may God continue to bless Texas."

[Click Here to View Letter To The Legislature](#)

## Capitol & District Office Closures

The District & Capitol offices will remain closed in line with suggested Stay Home, Work Safe guidelines. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

## Health Resources

[DSHS: COVID-19 Case Dashboard](#)

## Texas Case Counts

# COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

## Harris County Public Health Dashboard



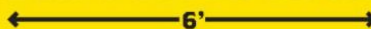
Harris County  
**Public Health**  
Building a Healthy Community

Click the image above to be directed to the Harris County Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard

## #MaskUpTexas



**DON'T COUGH ON ME**



## Updates from Austin

### Letter to Gov. Abbott: Request to Clarify Restaurant Definition

This week, I joined several other House Members in submitting a request to Governor Abbott to help reopen many small businesses across our state that were recently forced to close. Here is a brief summary of that letter below along with a link to view it.

"To save our state's resources and get Texans back to work, we ask you to clarify that any business with a license or permit from TABC is still a restaurant if it meets the following criteria and abides by the Minimum Standard Health Protocols for Restaurants:

1. Has a permanent kitchen on its premises with an exhaust hood and fire suppression system
2. Has the kitchen operational during all hours that the business is open, with multiple entrees available for consumption on the premises; and
3. Only serves patrons who are seated in accordance with the social distancing protocols for restaurants (aside from to-go and delivery service).

"This definition provides clarity on some of the confusion many restaurant owners are facing and allows

them to keep their doors open. Thank you for your willingness to listen and your leadership during this unprecedented time in our state's history."

## [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE LETTER TO REOPEN RESTAURANTS](#)

### TEA Issues Additional Reopening Guidance



### eLearning Funding Announced for Texas Students



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

#### **State Leaders Dedicate \$200 Million of CARES Act to TEA...**

Texas will allocate \$200 million in CARES Act funding to the TEA for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity...

[Read more](#)

## TxDOT: Crashes Take Toll on Motorcyclists

### Crashes Take Toll On Motorcyclists

AUSTIN - On average, one motorcyclist dies every day on Texas roads, and transportation officials are urging Texans to exercise caution and limit distractions while on the road, as traffic increases during the summer months.

[Read more](#)  
[www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov)

## TDI Extends Emergency Rule on Medication Refills

### TDI extends emergency rule on medication refills

The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) has extended an emergency rule to make it easier for Texans with TDI-regulated health insurance to get refills and to get prescriptions at more locations, including by home delivery. The temporary emergency ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

## Texas Prepaid Tuition Program Newborn Enrollment Deadline Approaches



### Texas Prepaid Tuition Program Newborn Enrollment...

July 16, 2020 (AUSTIN) - Texas families have through July 31 to enroll their newborns in the Texas Tuition Promise Fund® and pay this academic year's rates for all or some future tuition and schoolwide required fees at Texas public colleges and...

[Read more](#)  
[comptroller.texas.gov](http://comptroller.texas.gov)

## Updates from H.D. 127

## Humble ISD Back To School FAQ

### Back to School 2020 / FAQs



With larger populations that constantly mix on secondary campuses, a more cautious approach is prudent. Opening with 50 percent building occupancy will provide extra space in classrooms, eating areas, hallways and school buses.

[Read more](#)  
[www.humbleisd.net](http://www.humbleisd.net)

## InKids Piece Out Puzzle-a-thon



Including Kids is a non-profit organization that serves children and young adults that are on the autism spectrum. Through individualized teaching it is their goal to create a pathway to inclusion for every child, whether it is through early intervention, preparation for a typical classroom, job training, or skill building for as independent living as possible. They take children and young adults at all levels of ability including those with limited communication and challenging behaviors. Including Kids believes that every child has a place in our community.

*"While we are supporting the health of our community by staying close to home, we invite you to join us by gathering around your coffee table and participating in the Including Kids Piece Out Puzzle-a-thon! We are looking for 54 Including Kids Community Influencers to commit to building a puzzle (any size puzzle) and raising a minimum of \$154 for the life-changing work we do. We are asking for 54 of you because autism now affects 1 in 54 children. We need your help because the need is great!"*

Our Piece Out Puzzle-a-thon works much like "walk-a-thon" or "read-a-thon" where you will ask family and friends to donate towards your puzzle building effort. Signing up is really simple: [click on this link](#) to set-up your unique fundraising page, then set your personal fundraising goal, select the puzzle you would like to build, and share your page with everyone you know! Have fun with our fundraiser and post puzzle building updates so friends and family can see your progress. We encourage families to do this activity together in an effort to unplug and reconnect with one another during these uncertain and sometimes stressful times we are in. Feel free to tag us if you choose to share your progress on social media.

*We need you now more than ever so please consider participating in this unique fundraising effort which will start today and end on July 31, 2020. That gives you three weeks to get your puzzle completed and notifications sent out to your family and friends. But do not wait until the last minute, get the momentum going now! If you could get family and friends to create a page too that would be phenomenal! Dream big about the impact you can have for Including Kids, but most importantly have fun creating memories with your puzzle building crew knowing you are creating opportunities for our local autism community through your participation." - Including Kids Autism Center*

[Click Here to Participate](#)

# Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce State of the State Luncheon



## State of the State Luncheon

Dedicated to the vitality and quality of life, the Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce values business and government partnerships contributing to Texas success. The State of the State luncheon is an opportunity to engage the business community ...

[Read more](#)

[web.lakehouston.org](http://web.lakehouston.org)

## 3rd Annual Career and Opportunity Fair



## 3rd Annual Career & Opportunity Fair

The City of Houston, Housing and Community Development Department would like to extend an invitation for you to join us at our 3rd Annual Career Opportunity Fair on Monday, July 27, 2020. This virtual event will help alleviate concerns of...

## Contact Information

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**Casey Christman**  
**Chief of Staff**  
[Email Casey](#)

**Jack Reed**  
**Legislative Director**  
[Email Jack](#)

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Austin, TX 78768

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**Capitol Fax:**  
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